(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check the felling of trees and smuggling of valuable forest wealth in those part of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) to (b) Information is being collected from the Government of Orissa and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shifting of the units of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre from Trivandrum

1453. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Units of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (V.S.S.C.) at Trivandrum have already been shifted outside Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some more Units of the Centre are proposed to be shifted outside Kerala;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Valiamala, Trivandrum have the facilities to run important Units like P.T.U. and S.S.D.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) there are no plans to shift any Units belonging to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) from Trivandrum. On the other hand, ISRO is planning to establish new Units in Trivandrum, under the overall supervision of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) to achieve greater efficiency and flexibility and to expand certain critical activities of relevance not only to VSSC, but also to other ISRO Centres.

(e) The Valiamala Facilities at VSSC were established in the year 1983 primarily for launch vehicles integration and check out development of other launch vehicle systems, etc. Duplication of facilities were not planned at Valiamala for the activities like Pressure Transducer Unit (PUT) and Statellite Systems Division (SSD) which were already in progress at other places.

Demands of civilian defence canteen employees for pay at par wih Government employees

1554. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Civilian Defence Canteen Employees have been demanding the status of Government employees in connection with the fixation of their pay and other allowances;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a resolution passed at a meeting of the All Indian Defence Civilian Canteen Employees Union held at Chandigarh on the 23rd July, 1990 in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of their demands and decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Representations have been received from the employees of the Unit Run Canteens (URCs) seeking parity with Government employees in the fixation of their pay and other allowances. URCs are non-Government canteens being funded through the non-public funds of the Defence Services. Their scales of pay and terms of engagement are based on agreements between the employees and the employers, as in the case of other private employment.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.